

January 12, 1971

Dr. J. Sechrist
Department of Pharmacology
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213

Dear Dr. Sechrist:

Thank you very much for your letter of December 15. I am still somewhat confused concerning the pear-shaped cells. I assumed, as did His, Cajal, etc. that they are incipient postmitotic neuroblasts. What else can the narrower end (distal pole) with neurofibrils be but an incipient axon? Has a premitotic cell ever been shown to be polarized like this? Is the thymidine - H^3 labeling absolutely irrefutable evidence for a premitotic cell? Since this question is of considerable theoretical importance I would be interested in your reaction.

It is very kind of you to think of me as a consultant or even collaborator in your project. However, I have no experience with tissue - or organ culture nor with biochemical aspects; therefore, I think I should not enter into this project.

The student of Dr. Vaughn whom you mentioned is probably Mr. R. P. Scoff. I have contacted him, and he may join my laboratory later this year.

With best regards,

Yours,

Viktor Hamburger

VH/o